

# **ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting**

**Held at 7:00 pm, Monday, 19 November, 2007**

**In the EHS Theatre**

Again, students were at the door to greet attendees, and to staff a registration desk. In the foyer there was a historical display of photos.

## **1. Call to Order.**

Bill Broadley, Moderator for the meeting, opened and then called on Principal, Deborah Courville, to welcome attendees to the school.

## **2. Welcome Greetings.**

Deborah referred to the rich tradition of Esquimalt High School, with present students having moms, dads, and even grandparents who are alumni. She acknowledged the work of the Alumni Association in assisting the school and its students and preserving the school's history, and thanked Wes Umphrey for leading the way.

## **3. President's Report.**

Wes Umphrey reviewed the activities of the Alumni Association for the past year.

A list of Alumni members willing to provide career guidance has been prepared and given to the school.

The means of preserving family and individual memories of EHS has been investigated, and a suggested format is available for any Alumni members that want to write their own memories. Laws regarding the protection of privacy have made it difficult to compile written information for the Association. As a result this project has been deferred.

A wall plaque has been made and presented to the Victor Brodeur School that is now on the site of the former EHS building at 637 Head Street. It features photos that mark the former occupation of this site by the Esquimalt High School and later by the Esquimalt Junior High School. A similar plaque with photos of the various sites occupied by EHS over the years has been provided to the current Esquimalt High School.

Director of Heritage, Sherri Robinson, was instrumental in retrieving the Role of Honour plaque from the Lampson Street School, having it refurbished, and presenting it to EHS for display in the foyer. It lists the names of servicemen who attended Lampson Street School or EHS and were killed in WW1 or WW2. Sherri has also compiled a loose-leaf of information about those named on the plaque and given it to the School.

A wreath was laid at the Esquimalt Cenotaph on behalf of the School and its alumni on November 11<sup>th</sup> by Wes Umphrey and grade nine student Ryan McGill.

A 30<sup>th</sup> reunion for the Grad Class of 1978 is planned in 2008 for August 1 and 2 (details available at "gradreunion@hotmail.com"). A reunion is also being planned for the Class of 1973. Class reunions are not planned or organized by the Alumni Association. The Alumni's roll is to assist groups with their reunions. Plans for a 2008 general reunion of students from 1926 to 1956 plus Alumni are on hold pending the identification of a volunteer to coordinate the project. Previous reunions of this nature were initiated and coordinated by George Williamson

and attracted upwards of 500 people.

A \$1,000 Alumni Association scholarship has been provided to the 2005 recipient (Charlotte Gleave-Riemann), and another \$1,000 to the 2006 recipient (Jessie Robertson).

#### **4. November 20, 2007 Minutes**

Secretary John Carmichael moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2006 Annual General Meeting be approved as distributed on the Alumni Association web page. The motion was seconded by Walter Benson and was carried.

#### **5. 2007 Audit and 2008 Budget.**

Treasurer Bryan Mee referred to his financial report handed out at the entrance. He pointed out that as indicated on the document the Alumni funds are held in 3 separate locations; the Association bank account used for operating expenses; the School account held by the school for the Alumni Association and used for deposit of any membership fees they might receive and for any administration expenses paid on behalf of the Association; and the District Investment Scholarship account administered by the School District. Together the Association bank account and the School account carry balance of \$2,603.37 as of this date, and the District Account has a balance of \$13,672.99. Bryan answered questions from the audience. The interest received on the District account for the year was a bit more than enough to cover the \$1,000 scholarship grant for the year.

The accounts have been audited by alumni member Valerie Braunschweig and she found the accounts to be in order. Her audit report has been provided to the Treasurer and it includes some suggestions for next year. David Allen moved that her report be accepted as received. Jeff Hawker seconded the motion and it was carried.

Valerie then moved that the Financial Report and the 2008 budget be accepted as received. The motion was seconded by Wes Umphrey and it was carried.

It was moved by Bryan that the signing officers for the 2008 fiscal year would be Dave Allen, Bryan Mee, Myrna Bennett, and John Carmichael, seconded by Dave, and was carried.

It was moved by Bryan that Valerie Braunschweig be appointed to be the auditor for the next year, seconded by Wes, and was carried.

#### **6. Scholarship Program**

Helen Money reported that the candidate for the scholarship award for this year had been selected by the school's scholarship committee in accordance with the Association's criteria. The recipient is Jessie Robertson who is enrolled in a Halifax fine arts college.

#### **7. Director's Elections**

John Carmichael gave the report of the Alumni Association's nominating committee, made up of John and Wes, for the election of directorships that become vacant at the time of this Annual General Meeting. These nominations were printed on the back of the invitation letter sent to all Alumni. Nine positions are now vacant and the committee has nominated candidates for 8 of these positions.

Final Copy

The eight committee nominations are as follows:

President	David Allen	Two years
Vice President	Bryan Mee	Two Years
Treasurer	Myrna Bennett	Two Years
Director of Records	Jeff Hawker	Two Years
Director of Communications	Ryan Richard	Two Years
Director at Large	Bill Broadley	Two Years
Director at Large	Dale Wood	One Year
Director of Reunions	Wes Umphrey	One Year

Additional nominations were called for each of these positions in turn and hearing none the committee nominee was declared elected by acclamation.

Nominations for the ninth position for one year, the Director of Heritage, were called for resulting in the nomination of Valerie Braunschweig. There being no further nominations Valerie was declared elected by acclamation.

John closed the election of directors by reminding everyone that any Alumni is welcome to attend alumni meetings and to contribute to the work of the Association.

Three directors are not up for election at this meeting as their term ends next year. These are:

Secretary	John Carmichael	One year left
Director at Large	Helen Money	One year left
Director at Large	George Copley	One year left

Also, Deborah Courville, Principle of EHS, is a continuing ex-officio member of the Board of Directors.

### 8. Closing Remarks

David Allen thanked Wes for his two and a half years of outstanding leadership in bringing a group together to get the Alumni Association established. During that time the Association has become incorporated and now has just under 400 members. Its charitable tax status has been applied for and is expected soon. A web site has been established for which he thanked Peter Steed for his contributions. Scholarships have been provided and the profile of the Association has been raised. Then he spoke of his excitement at looking ahead to the next two years. He has met with a small committee of 8 interested alumni to identify projects that the Association could back to raise its profile and to assist the school. After consultation with the School Principal they have recommended two projects; the replacement of the school's bus, and the refurbishing of the auditorium seats. After discussion from the floor Dave moved that the Alumni Association undertake a project of up-grading the seats in the EHS auditorium. Some of the seats are in very poor condition with broken spring mechanisms and damaged upholstery. The estimated cost is \$45,000 and the Association would seek contributions to provide the necessary fund. The motion was seconded by Bryan Mee and was carried.

David closed by acknowledging the contributions toward the development of the Association by Bill Broadley, and then by inviting any interested Alumni member to check the web site at [www.esquimalhighalumni.com](http://www.esquimalhighalumni.com) and to contact a Director and offer their services if they see an opportunity to do so.